

THE WONDERFUL  
ADVANTAGES OF ADVENTURING  
IN THE 1490 f.p. 42  
LOTTERY!!!

OR, THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
JOHN DOYLE.



DUBLIN:  
Sold by W. WATSON and SON,

1797.

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ADVANTAGES OF ADVERTISING

OF THE R Y!!!

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THE WONDERFUL  
ADVANTAGES  
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IN THE  
LOTTERY!!!

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JOHN DOYLE was servant in the family of a respectable Merchant in this City. He had lived there for several years; and from his uniform integrity, sobriety and diligence, possess'd the confidence and affection of his Master. While in that family, he married a fellow-servant, a young woman whose name was MARY COATES; and they lived, for more than seven years, as happy together as their hearts could wish. They had one child living, a fine little boy about six years old, whom they maintained at a school, kept some miles from town by his mother's father; and this situation they preferred for him to any one in DUBLIN, as he was less exposed to the company of wicked children.

JOHN and his wife however got leave from time to time to visit their child; and were always able to bring him one little article or another of clothes, as well as a present to the grand-father.

Thus comfortable were they, and had every prospect of continuing so till death; but one unfortunate day that JOHN was sent on a message by his master, he received a hand-bill from a man standing at the door of a LOTTERY-OFFICE. And this hand-bill set forth many wonders, and invited all who had a mind to be rich in a hurry to seize the lucky hour of adventuring in the WHEEL OF FORTUNE; shewing them how many thousand pounds they would be sure to get for ONE GUINEA!!! Casting his eye over the advertisement, the thought struck him that he would try his fortune. "Why may not I get a prize as well as another?" said he to himself; "and if I get the twenty thousand pound prize, or even one of the ten thousands, I will be as great a man as my master."—It was a woful moment for poor JOHN when this imagination fastened on his mind; and the event proved the truth of what is said in the BIBLE that *the love of money is the root of all evil*.—Full of the notion, however, JOHN returned home, and appeared all that day unusually thoughtful.

At

At night, as he was not used to conceal any thing from his wife, he told her his intention. ' Molly, (said he) we have just got our quarter's wages, and the drawing begins to-morrow;—suppose we *try our fortune* in the LOTTERY.—Not with my consent; (she replied)—' I think we are rich enough as we are, and ought to be thankful to God that we want for nothing.' JOHN was obliged to acknowledge this; but observed that it would do them no harm to have something *more*.—' Indeed but it might; (said MOLLY)—for you know, JOHN, God is the best judge of what is good for us, and it is his PROVIDENCE has placed us in our present situation. If he saw that riches would do us good, I believe he would send them to us in an honest way: But I am sure you and I know some people that are nothing the better for their riches—no—nor the happier either.—' But what harm—(said he) can there be in *trying our fortune*?—' I know there is harm' (replied his wife, who was well read in the Bible)—' I know there is harm in covetousness, for the word of God says—*be content with such things as you have*—and he that *maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent*. For my part I am very well satisfied as I am; and when I think of the poverty and distress our blessed SAVIOUR

A 3

submitted



' submitted to, I find great reason to praise  
 ' him for the abundance we enjoy.—But,  
 ' my dear, what has put this matter into  
 ' your head ?'—JOHN pulled the hand-  
 bill out of his pocket ; and explained to  
 her, as well as he could, all the wonderful  
 advantages which it promised. But this  
 did not satisfy his wife : and she wisely ob-  
 served that if there were so much to be got  
 by these same tickets, it was strange that  
 the people who sold them would not rather  
 keep them for themselves.—' But do you  
 ' not see there before your eyes, (said  
 ' JOHN) the number of prizes that were  
 ' sold last year at the *Lion's Office* ? Well ;  
 ' (replied his wife) I wish they had pub-  
 ' lished the number of *blanks* that were sold  
 ' too. But ah ! JOHN, there are a great  
 ' many lies in print : and to tell you the  
 ' truth, I fancy it is all a gambling trick ;  
 ' and that the people who sell these tickets  
 ' are little better than *knaves*, and the folks  
 ' who buy them no better than *fools*.—  
 ' And you know, my dear, our little boy  
 ' wants clothes ; and this is the time that  
 ' you generally bring something to his old  
 ' grand-father.—Sure (said she, while a  
 ' tear stole down her cheek) you will not  
 ' forget our dear JOHNNY.' But all her  
 arguments were in vain ; and he con-  
 cluded the conversation rather peevishly  
 with declaring—' It is a folly to talk ; I  
 ' am

I am resolved to try.' His wife wiped her eyes, and only said with a sigh—'I am sorry for it.—It was the first time he had ever grieved her.

That night JOHN slept little, his head was so full of his intended purchase in the LOTTERY; and he was anxiously debating which of the various modes of adventuring was to be preferred, and laying a thousand plans what he would do upon getting his expected riches. Early next day he got from his wife some money which he had given her to keep; and making a false excuse of business for going into town, he hurried to a LOTTERY OFFICE. There looking at various tickets and shares and policies that were shewn; he invoked his good fortune; and, out of several numbers that he was informed were peculiarly lucky, selected one ticket. But as he was returning with it home, beginning to think that he was foolish to spend *all his luck* (as he call'd it) upon *one* number, he went back to the LOTTERY OFFICE, and changed the ticket for six policies; which he got at a Guinea a piece. The Deuce is in it (said he) as he put them in his pocket, if they be all drawn blanks. Upon hearing that the ticket he had taken first was drawn the next day a prize of ten pounds; he thank'd his Stars that he had parted with it,

as he would by no means be satisfied with gaining so little as two or three pounds by his venture.

JOHN now became hourly anxious to know whether his numbers were drawn or not; and often neglected his business to enquire after them. He appeared thoughtful and gloomy in the house; and sometimes gave his Master a very short answer, if he attempted to find fault with him. All in the family wonder'd at the entire change in his conduct; his poor wife alone guess'd at the cause. To her he now observed an entire silence upon the subject; as he had found her so decided against his venturing in the LOTTERY. But one day when he had come home after hearing that two of his numbers were drawn blanks, and a third drawn a  $\text{£}10$  prize (from which he of course got nothing;)—she threw her arms about his neck, and with a flood of tears ask'd him why he had been for some days so peevish to her. 'My dearest husband (said she) it was never so with you before, since our marriage. But if I have done any thing lately to offend you, I am ready to go on my knees to implore your pardon. Only do not break my heart by behaving as if you did not love me.'—Pugh! Woman! (replied he suddenly)—don't make a fool of yourself.



"self."—Alas' (said she) is it folly to be  
 "grieved at seeing you unhappy, or at the  
 "fear of having displeased you? But, ah!  
 "I fear the LOTTERY is the cause. I thought  
 "no good would come of it.—' An ill  
 "tongue (replied he) may do much.'—  
 MOLLY perceived that his mind was in a  
 state of vexation; and therefore did not  
 press the subject then. But in the evening  
 she took an opportunity of entreating him  
 tenderly to rest satisfied under any loss he  
 had already suffer'd, without venturing farther;  
 observing that he might thus learn a  
 lesson which would be useful to him all his  
 life; but that if he went on obstinately in  
 error, he could not expect the blessing of  
 God;—and surely, (added she,) we shall be  
 'richer with that blessing and a little of the  
 'world, than if we had all the world with-  
 'out it. Ah! JOHN! (she continued)  
 'there is indeed, as our SAVIOUR says,  
 'but *one thing needful*. What matter whe-  
 'ther we be rich or poor in this life, if we  
 'get to heaven at last? And truly God  
 'is so gracious a master that his service  
 'brings peace and comfort with it even  
 'here: while on the contrary those who  
 'set their hearts upon the world, do not  
 'even find in it now the enjoyment which  
 'they seek;—not to say that if they gained  
 'the whole world and lost their own souls  
 'they would make a fool's bargain—

Tho' JOHN had not accustomed himself to read the *Bible* as much as his Wife, yet he knew enough of it to be satisfied that what she said was all very true; and she spoke with so much gentleness and affection that he could not take it amiss. He then promised her that he would not throw away any more money in the LOTTERY; and she thanked God for the resolution, and prayed that he might have grace to keep it. But wishing to withdraw him from the scene of temptation, she proposed that he should ask leave of his Master to visit their little child in the Country; to which JOHN Consented, and easily obtained permission. It was with a glad heart that MOLLY saw him set off next morning; but she little thought how soon her joy was to be succeeded by the bitterest sorrow.—Her husband's heart was still hankering after his three numbers that remained in the wheel; and as the drawing was pretty far advanced, he became every day more anxious and impatient. He therefore resolved, instead of leaving town that day, to spend it in the place where the drawing was going on. 'Who knows (said he to himself) but I may return to my wife this evening, with news that will make her acknowledge I did right in trying my fortune?—JOHN had often heard of insuring numbers; but did not

well know what it meant. He therefore  
 proceeded to a LOTTERY OFFICE to have  
 it explained. ' I want (said he) to *insure*,  
 ' but I don't know how to do it, nor in-  
 ' deed what it is.'—Sir, (replied a well-  
 ' drest man behind the Counter) you are  
 ' perfectly right. Insuring, Sir, is the only  
 ' way to make money; and I will explain  
 ' it all to you in a moment with the great-  
 ' est pleasure.—JOHN thanked his ho-  
 ' nour.—Only give me (continued the  
 ' other) ' the trifling premium of 6s. 10d  
 ' on any number you choose; and if it be  
 ' drawn either blank or prize in the course  
 ' of the day, you may call on me for  
 ' FIVE GUINEAS, and they will be paid  
 ' you down upon the nail,—hard guineas,  
 ' Sir,—hard and heavy. There is no of-  
 ' fice in the City that pays hits with so  
 ' much honour as this. I had demands on  
 ' me yesterday to the tune of £300; and all  
 ' answered as soon as called for.'—Well,  
 ' said JOHN (staring with wonder to see him  
 ' so finely drest while he was losing so much  
 ' money)—Well, and if the number be  
 ' not drawn to day at all, will you give  
 ' me *any thing*?—O! Sir, (replied the  
 ' office-keeper) as to that, it is very un-  
 ' likely. And really, it is not any in-  
 ' terest I have in this, that makes me  
 ' carry on the business, but a wish to hold  
 ' out such advantages to the citizens as no  
 ' other



' other office in Dublin can boast of. And  
 ' I would recommend it to you, as a  
 ' friend, to insure at least ten or twelve  
 ' numbers; that you may be *certain* of  
 ' winning. Take my word for it that's  
 ' playing a sure game.—Five Guineas,  
 ' Sir, for 6s. 10d.! Think of that.—The  
 cunning Office-keeper was so friendly and  
 so obliging, that he easily encouraged  
 JOHN to insure his three remaining num-  
 bers, besides several others, for that day.  
 The poor man now thought it was hardly  
 possible but that he must put something  
 in his pocket. ' Whether the numbers  
 (thought he) ' be drawn blanks or prizes I  
 ' get money: And if any of my three re-  
 ' maining policies turn up the £10,000  
 ' prize,—my fortune's made. It is yet in  
 ' the wheel; and why may not I get it as  
 ' well as another?'—Full of this thought  
 he hastened to watch the drawing; while  
 the Office-keeper, as he went out, put the  
 money in his pocket and his tongue in his  
 cheek, laughing heartily at JOHN's simpli-  
 city.—Arrived at the place of drawing, he  
 there found a number of drunken ragged  
 blaspheming wretches, assembled upon the  
 same fool's-errand with himself. Their  
 appearance and language at first shocked  
 him, especially when he heard one and  
 another cursing themselves for their folly.—  
 But he now became all attention to the  
 numbers

numbers that were declared as soon as drawn; and his heart beat, whenever any one near his own was mentioned. In a little time, wearied with expectation, he began to imitate the example of others around him in laying wagers whether the number next drawn would be a blank or prize: and a decent looking man, who sat near, soon engaged with him in the business. The stranger, who knew better than JOHN how to calculate chances, let him win a few shillings at first; but soon stript him of every farthing in his pocket. He was ashamed to confess that he had no more money: and the spirit of GAMING having now completely seized him, he hurried back to his master's house; and when his wife with surprise asked the cause of his sudden appearance, he pretended that he recollected on the road some article which he had forgotten to bring with him, and returned for it. He had not been used to *lying*: But having now commenced GAMESTER, he was going on step by step in wickedness. His poor wife perceived confusion and distress in his countenance; but believing his assertion, made no farther enquiries, only urging him to hasten his departure. She felt a heaviness at her heart that she could not account for, as he left the house a second time.—She knew not that he brought away with him, a Sil-

ver Goblet and some spoons, which belonged to his Master, and were under his care. These he immediately pawned, expecting that he would be able to release them, before they should be missed. But the Devil always leaves his Servants in the lurch: and so it proved with JOHN.

With the money thus iniquitously raised, he returned to the scene that he had left, and arrived just time enough to lose it all, except a few shillings, before that day's drawing ended. Stung with vexation he came out into the street, cursing himself and cursing others; and hurried along with some of his new companions to a public house. That was a place which he had not been accustomed to frequent. The Whiskey which he drank to *drown care* soon inflamed him to madness, and prepared him for every act of enormity and desperation. At one moment he conceived the thought of putting an end to his own life, which had now become a burden. Alas! had he followed the advice of his Wife, or taken the Word of God for his direction, he might have been happy. He knew not now what to do. Return home he dare not; for he dreaded the thought of its being discovered that he had embezzled his Master's property. And to continue adventuring in the Lottery he had not the means. His mind



was tost with various passions;—it was a kind of Hell. But he was not truly penitent for his offence; and did not pray to God for his gracious assistance:—he therefore went on from bad to worse. His companions, more hardened in wickedness than himself, laughed at his distress. He heard them with surprize boast of the various fraudulent schemes by which they supported themselves in their villainy. But one of them in particular took him aside into an inner room; and after they had called for more drink, told him plainly that he was a blockhead for being so much cast down by his losses, that if he had only spirit enough he might soon retrieve them all; and having first sworn JOHN to secrecy, proposed that they should join together in a scheme which he had formed of committing a highway robbery that night. He mentioned a Gentleman that was to return to town with a sum of money late in the evening by Glasnevin road; and assured him of getting a rich and easy booty.—‘ I lived in his family (said he) till a year ago; and a good service it was, for I had high wages and little work. But truly because I got drunk now and then, he parted with me and would not give me a discharge for sobriety; and I have been out of place ever since. But I’m now  
my

“ my own Master; get money in an easier way, and drink as much as I please. “ A short life and a merry one, say I.”

JOHN was at first startled by the proposal; but after a moment's pause, observed with an oath that *he was in for it*, and would not *flinch*. He was shortly furnished with a case of pistols by his companion, whose name was REILLY; but when he took them expressed a hope that there might be no blood.

They sallied forth together, and lay concealed in a field beside the road.—A few days before JOHN would have started with horror at the thought of being engaged in such a business: but when a man once gives way to what is evil, it is impossible to say where he shall stop.—The expected Gentleman soon arrived; when rushing out, one of them seized the reins of his horse, while the other held a pistol to his breast, and with horrid execrations demanded his money. The Gentleman, a Mr. STEWART, immediately snapped a pistol, which missed fire; and both the robbers discharging theirs, shot him dead on the spot. They had hardly time to rifle him of his money, when the Country was alarmed by the report of the pistols; and they were obliged to fly with

with precipitation: but being favoured by the darkness of the night, they got clear off from their pursuers. After hastily sharing the spoils, and again swearing each other to secrecy (as if oaths could blind villains);—they separated for the greater safety, and spent the remainder of the night at different houses of ill fame. But JOHN'S mind was now racked with remorse, and guilt was visible in his countenance. When day-light came, he endeavoured to compose himself to sleep; but in vain: the image of the person whom he had murdered haunted his imagination; and the torment of his conscience was almost more grievous than the punishment of the law which he dreaded. He had intended to employ his ill-gotten gain, in trying his fortune farther in the LOTTERY,—that cursed LOTTERY which had brought on all his misery; and had he done so, it is more than probable that his fortune would have been the same as the day before. But all courage now failed him; and being afraid to appear in public, he slunk to his Master's house at an early hour; and indulged the hope that as there was no witness of the horrid deed but himself and his companion, it would remain undiscovered for ever. He little remembered that God's eye saw it.



and that his PROVIDENCE seldom (if ever) suffers such wickedness to pass unpunished, even in this world.

His wife, tho' surpris'd at her husband's expeditious arrival, welcomed him with affection; and tenderly enquired after the welfare of their little boy.--- Ask no questions, Woman.--- was his only reply. She was struck dumb with astonishment; but when she perceived a pistol under his coat, she clasped her hands in an agony of uncertain horror; and sinking upon a chair without uttering a word, she trembled like an aspen leaf.

The robbery and murder now became the talk of the town, and John's Master asked him whether he had heard any thing of the circumstances. He had only power to answer with a faltering voice in the negative. But how did his heart sink within him, when he heard soon after that his companion (who had been a notorious offender) was taken up on suspicion of having committed the fact! yet he still thought there was no evidence that could prove the charge. He was afraid to visit REUBEN, or even to make any enquiries about him, lest they should fasten suspicion upon himself. Every rap that came to the door startled him. Every person that looked at

at him seemed to him to know his guilt. He sometimes thought of flying; but again determined to stand his ground, lest his absconding should occasion an immediate pursuit.—Some days passed thus, and he began to flatter himself that all was safe. But as he lay one night sleepless and tossing,—his afflicted wife weeping by his side and afraid to enquire into the cause of his situation;—a noise was heard at the door; and on its opening, the Officers of Police entered to apprehend him. REILLY had turned approver to secure his own life;—so little confidence can villians place in each other.—He was now dragged pale and trembling to NEWGATE; while poor MOLLY clung to him shrieking, and fainted away as soon as they entered the prison. When she came to herself, she felt that her heart was broken. She never raised her head again. Yet she attended him closely for a while; but pined,—and soon sunk beneath the weight of her affliction. She died—time enough to escape witnessing his ignominious end; and with her dying breath prayed that her husband might be brought to repentance, and might yet obtain mercy at the hands of God. Whether it was so, we cannot be certain till the day of judgment. When brought to the bar, he cast a look of indignation and reproach at his accomplice, who now appeared as evidence

dence against him ; which the other returned with a malicious sneer. His guilt was clearly proved ; and a concurrence of circumstances all confirmed it. When the JUDGE was going to pass sentence, he cried out for a *long day*, to which his LORDSHIP replied in the following words:— ‘ Un-  
 ‘ happy man ! you seem to have forgotten  
 ‘ that in the murder of Mr. STEWART  
 ‘ you allowed him no time. In a moment,  
 ‘ and without provocation, you sent a wor-  
 ‘ thy person who had never harmed you  
 ‘ into Eternity : and the laws of God and  
 ‘ man demand your forfeited life. You  
 ‘ must prepare for almost immediate death :  
 ‘ and your fate, I trust, will stand an aw-  
 ‘ ful warning to many. You might have  
 ‘ lived long, useful, respected and happy ;  
 ‘ had you been content with that compe-  
 ‘ tence which you acquired by honest in-  
 ‘ dustry,—had not the diabolical love of  
 ‘ money and the desire of hasty and un-  
 ‘ righteous gain taken possession of your  
 ‘ heart. I mourn over the existence of  
 ‘ such a public nuisance as appears to have  
 ‘ been the first occasion of your fall : and  
 ‘ I cannot help declaring that I have never  
 ‘ sat upon a commission after the drawing  
 ‘ of the LOTTERY, but I had reason to think  
 ‘ it had proved the ruin of many—of by  
 ‘ far the greater part of the unhappy cul-  
 ‘ prits !



' prits who appeared before me. -I would  
 ' earnestly exhort the crowds that hear me  
 ' to abhor the thoughts of adventuring in  
 ' it,—to fly from it as from a plague—which  
 ' will destroy domestic happiness and in-  
 ' ward peace,—which will involve them in  
 ' every species of distress, and has brought  
 ' hundreds to an untimely and ignomi-  
 ' nious end ;—to consider it only as the  
 ' cunning artifice of designing men, to en-  
 ' rich themselves, by holding out to the  
 ' unwary multitude the chance of immo-  
 ' derate gain,—a prospect which seldom, in  
 ' one instance out of a thousand, ends in  
 ' any thing but disappointment. I mourn  
 ' also that others should be involved in your  
 ' calamity, who have not been partners in  
 ' your guilt ;—that an amiable and virtuous  
 ' woman (as I am informed) should have  
 ' died broken-hearted on your account ;  
 ' [here the prisoner groaned]—and that  
 ' your infant child must be left an orphan  
 ' in a world that will be too forward to re-  
 ' proach him with his father's memory,  
 ' But your crime is of that enormity that  
 ' the course of justice cannot be stopped  
 ' for a moment by suggestions of pity.  
 ' Your doom in *this* world is sealed. Of  
 ' your state in the *next* it is not my office  
 ' to pronounce : and when I consider the  
 ' boundless extent of divine mercy, it  
 ' would ill become me to forbear directing  
 your

your view to Him who came into the  
 world to save even the chief of sinners.  
 But this I say that it is He alone can save  
 you, by giving you repentance and re-  
 mission of your crying sins. It is not hu-  
 man ceremonies or outward forms that  
 can cancel your guilt, or avert the wrath  
 of an offended God. May you have  
 grace therefore to employ the little time  
 remaining for you in this world, in calling  
 upon Him for mercy!--As to the wretch  
 before me who has been an accomplice  
 in your crime, and upon whose evidence  
 you have been convicted; he will not  
 escape justice. I must remand him back  
 to Newgate, that he may stand his trial  
 upon the charge of two other robberies:-  
 It is a painful but necessary part of my of-  
 fice to which I now proceed. It is with  
 a bleeding heart I pronounce your sen-  
 tence—which is—that you be *hanged,*  
*drawn and quartered* on Saturday next the  
 15th inst. and may the Lord have mercy  
 on your Soul!

He was executed according to his sen-  
 tence; and would to God that his history  
 might prove a warning to all, against trying  
 their fortune in the Lottery.

**THE END.**



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